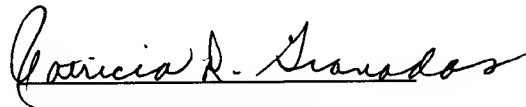


Remarks

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments referencing the parent application be made prior to examination of the present application. A first office action on the merits is awaited.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

2001.11.29 14:33:55

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE IN THE
SPECIFICATION

In the Specification:

Page 1, following the title, please insert the following:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/971,966 filed November 17, 1997. The prior application is hereby incorporated herein by reference, in its entirety.--

0999531-12901
10521-12901